Non-fulfilment of World Bank Commitment in Oral Contraceptive Pills

4747. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has failed to fulfil its commitment of meeting the expenditure amounting to over Rs. 17 crore for over 3 years, in respect of social marketing of oral contraceptive pills, particularly the 'Centochroman of Hindustan Latex Limited' and 'Saheli' of Tossent Limited.;

(b) whether these are comparatively more effective oral contraceptives with no side effects; and

(c) if so, what are the details of non-payment by World Bank on this account and the steps taken by Government in this regard thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Eligibility of Centchroman under World Bank assistance is being considered by the Bank in concultation with Government. Centchroman is a non-steroidal weekly oral pill which can be safely used by women in the reproductive age group who want to space their children. The pill is not recommended for women suffering from certain diseases including recent history of jaundice or other liver diseases,Tuberculosis etc.

Research in Heart Surgery

4748. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the breakthrough in heart surgery made by the Escorts Heart Institution and Research Centre in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this new research and treatment has now made operation of arteries possible besides carrying out the bypass surgery;

(d) whether Government propose to have a study of this new treatment to provide the same in Government hospitals in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A brief note is appended as statement. (*See* below).

(c) This procedure can be performed with bypass surgery depending on indications and suitability of the patient, but it is not a substitute for bypass surgery.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Statement

The heart laser used in the Transmyocardial Resascularisation (TMR) procedure is a high powered 1000 Watt 002 laser system which has been procured by Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre, and the first TMR operation was done with the system on 14.3.95.

The heart laser is used to drill tiny holes 0.5 mm to 1 mm wide through the wall of the left ventricular in the area that is deprived of blood. About 15 to 30 such holes are drilled during the surgery, which provides blood directly to the deprived area of the heart muscle through newly drilled channels.

This procedure is indicated (1) in patients with coronary artery disease with symptoms where coronary artery bypass graft surgery is not possible, (2) in patients who have diffuse coronary artery disease, and (3) those patients who were operated in the past, but vascular grafts have blocked. Such patients stand to gain a lot by this new procedure.